

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-2442
8713 Cowenton Avenue
White Marsh, Baltimore County
1920 ca.
Private

The commercial building at 8713 Cowenton Avenue dates to an early 20th century period of modest growth along this stretch of Philadelphia Road. By 1850, the area of Philadelphia Road between its current intersections with Cowenton Avenue and Joppa Road was only sparsely developed. In the mid-19th century, this area was still marked by extensive agricultural lands that were traversed by the turnpike. By 1877, Cowenton Avenue was still an unimproved road, and this stretch of Philadelphia Road was still largely agrarian, although a few more dwelling had been constructed since 1850. Family names common throughout this area included Pinkerton, Smith, and Canoles. Since 1915, several more dwellings were constructed along Philadelphia Road between Joppa and Cowenton. Nevertheless, this area has retained its rural character through the late 20th century. The late 20th century construction of Interstate 95 nearly parallel with Philadelphia Road has alleviated congestion from through-traffic along the surface road and enabled the community to maintain its character.

This two-story commercial building, now clad in formstone, dates to circa 1920. The three-bay-wide, seven-bay-deep main block is sited on the northwest corner of Cowenton Avenue and Philadelphia Road and fronts southeast along Philadelphia Road with a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The foundation was not visible at the time of the survey. The southeast elevation features a plate-glass single-leaf door with a metal surround and three one-light fixed windows on the first story. Three 6/6 windows pierce the second story. The attic story is pedimented with asphalt shingles cladding the tympanum. Circa 1950, a on-story addition with two glass block windows flanking a central paneled single-leaf door was constructed on the northeast elevation projecting forward from the plane of the main block. The northeast elevation of the main block reveals historic rock-faced concrete block. A ramp leads from Philadelphia Road to a parking lot that is raised to the second story of the main block on the northeast side of the building.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2442

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic

other

2. Location

street and number 8713 Cowenton Avenue

not for publication

city, town White Marsh

vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name S. & S. Enterprises

street and number 4212 Ridge Road

telephone Not Available

city, town Baltimore

state MD

zip code 21236

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse

liber 6209 folio 83

city, town Towson

tax map 72

tax parcel 566

tax ID number 1900000213

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2442

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This two-story commercial building, now clad in formstone, dates to circa 1920 . The three-bay-wide, seven-bay-deep main block is sited on the northwest corner of Cowenton Avenue and Philadelphia Road and fronts southeast along Philadelphia Road with a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The foundation was not visible at the time of the survey. The southeast elevation features a plate-glass single-leaf door with a metal surround and three one-light fixed windows on the first story. Three 6/6 windows pierce the second story. The attic story is pedimented with asphalt shingles cladding the tympanum. Circa 1950, a on-story addition with two glass block windows flanking a central paneled single-leaf door was constructed on the northeast elevation projecting forward from the plane of the main block. The northeast elevation of the main block reveals historic rock-faced concrete block. A ramp leads from Philadelphia Road to a parking lot that is raised to the second story of the main block on the northeast side of the building.

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8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2442

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1920 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1920 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The commercial building at 8713 Cowenton Avenue dates to an early 20th century period of modest growth along this stretch of Philadelphia Road. By 1850, this road was known as the Philadelphia Turnpike. Upon the road's release by the turnpike company, it was finally renamed Philadelphia Road. By 1850, the area of Philadelphia Road between its current intersections with Cowenton Avenue and Joppa Road was only sparsely developed. In the mid-19th century, this area was still marked by extensive agricultural lands that were traversed by the turnpike.¹ By 1877, Cowenton Avenue was still an unimproved road, and this stretch of Philadelphia Road was still largely agrarian, although a few more dwelling had been constructed since 1850. Family names common throughout this area included Pinkerton, Smith, and Canoles.² Since 1915, several more dwellings were constructed along Philadelphia Road between Joppa and Cowenton.³ Nevertheless, this area has retained its rural character through the late 20th century. The late 20th century construction of Interstate 95 nearly parallel with Philadelphia Road has alleviated congestion from through-traffic along the surface road and enabled the community to maintain its character.

¹ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

³ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2442

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .30 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name White Marsh

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1920, the commercial building at 8713 Cowenton Avenue has been associated with the .303 acres of land known as tax parcel 566 of map 72 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

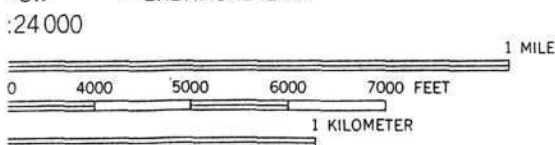
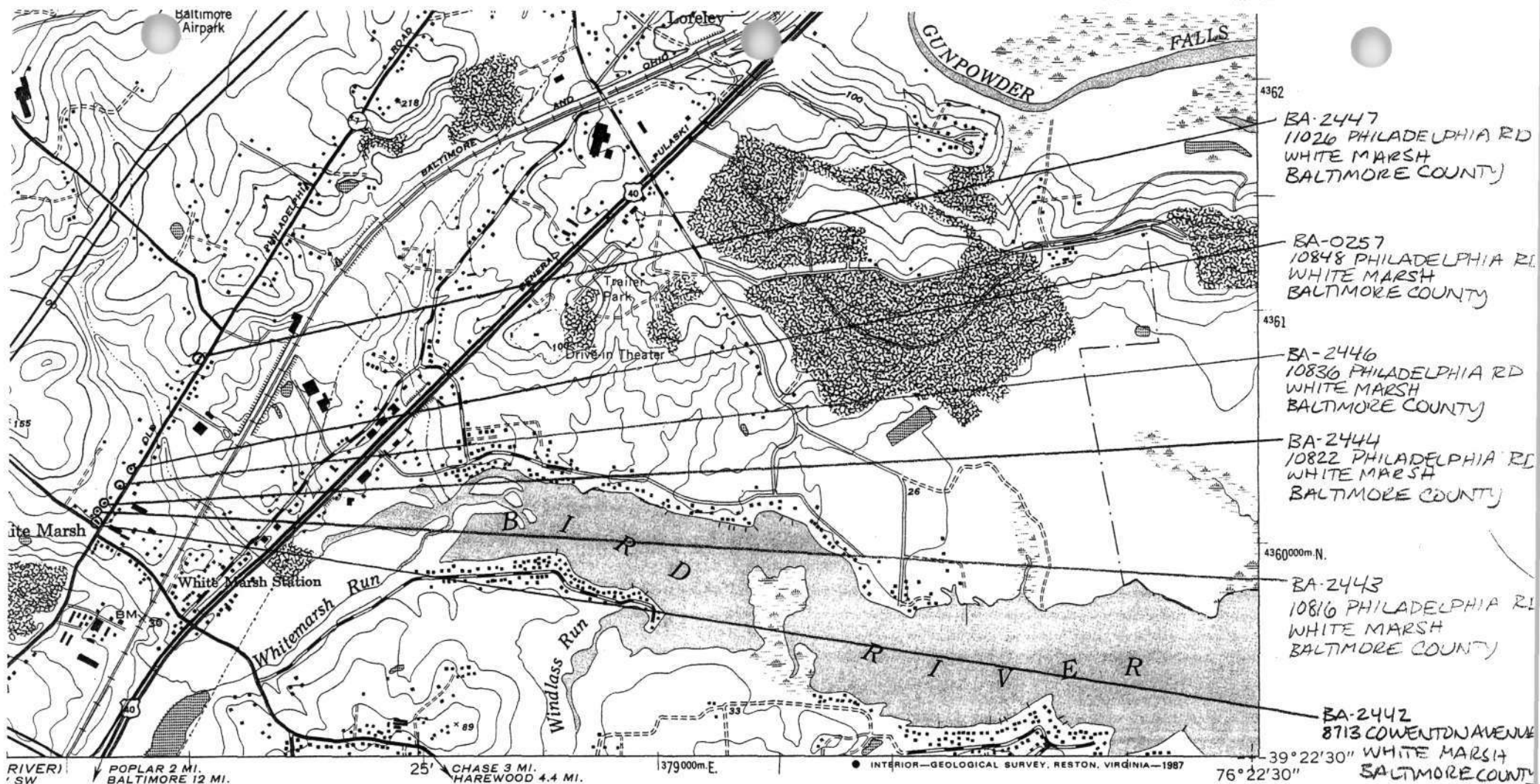
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled by the
Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1982 and
other sources. This information not field checked
Map edited 1986

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route ○ U.S. Route ○ State Route

WHITE MARSH, MD.
39076-D4-TF-024

1949
PHOTOREVISED 1986
DMA 5762 IV NW—SERIES V833

(GUNPOWDER NECK)
5762 IV SE

SCHAEFER
STROHMINGER

WE BUY
& SELL
VEHICLES

White Marsh
USED CARS



BA-2442

8713 COWENTON AVENUE

WHITE MARSH

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRAILERIES

3/2001

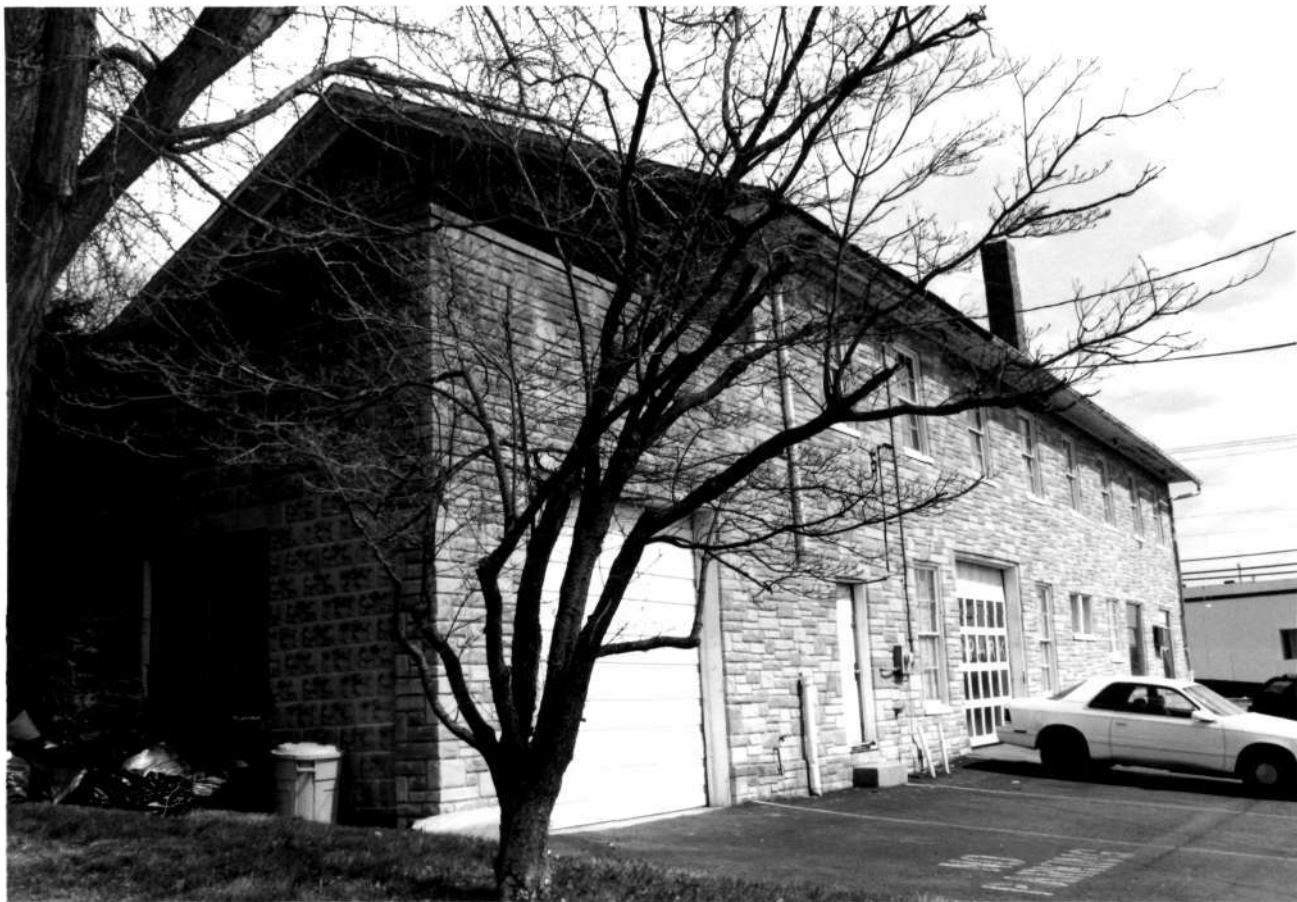
MD-SHPO

SW ELEVATION

1 of 3



BA-2442
8713 COWENTON AVENUE
WHITE MARSH
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERIES
3/2001
MD-SHPD
S CORNER



BA-2442

8713 LOWENTON AVENUE

WHITE MARSH

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD-SH00

W CORNER

BA-2442

DODGE DEALERSHIP - ca. 1920 - 10800 Philadelphia Road, White Marsh. Frame, two-story commercial building of 1920s or 1930s still in use. The business was started as a repair garage in 1920s by Gilbert Smith, and expanded into Smith Motors, an auto showroom and dealership in the 1930s. Familiar sight on northwest corner of Cowenton Road and Route 7 just north of the terminus of Ebenezer Road.